



# Costa Blanca



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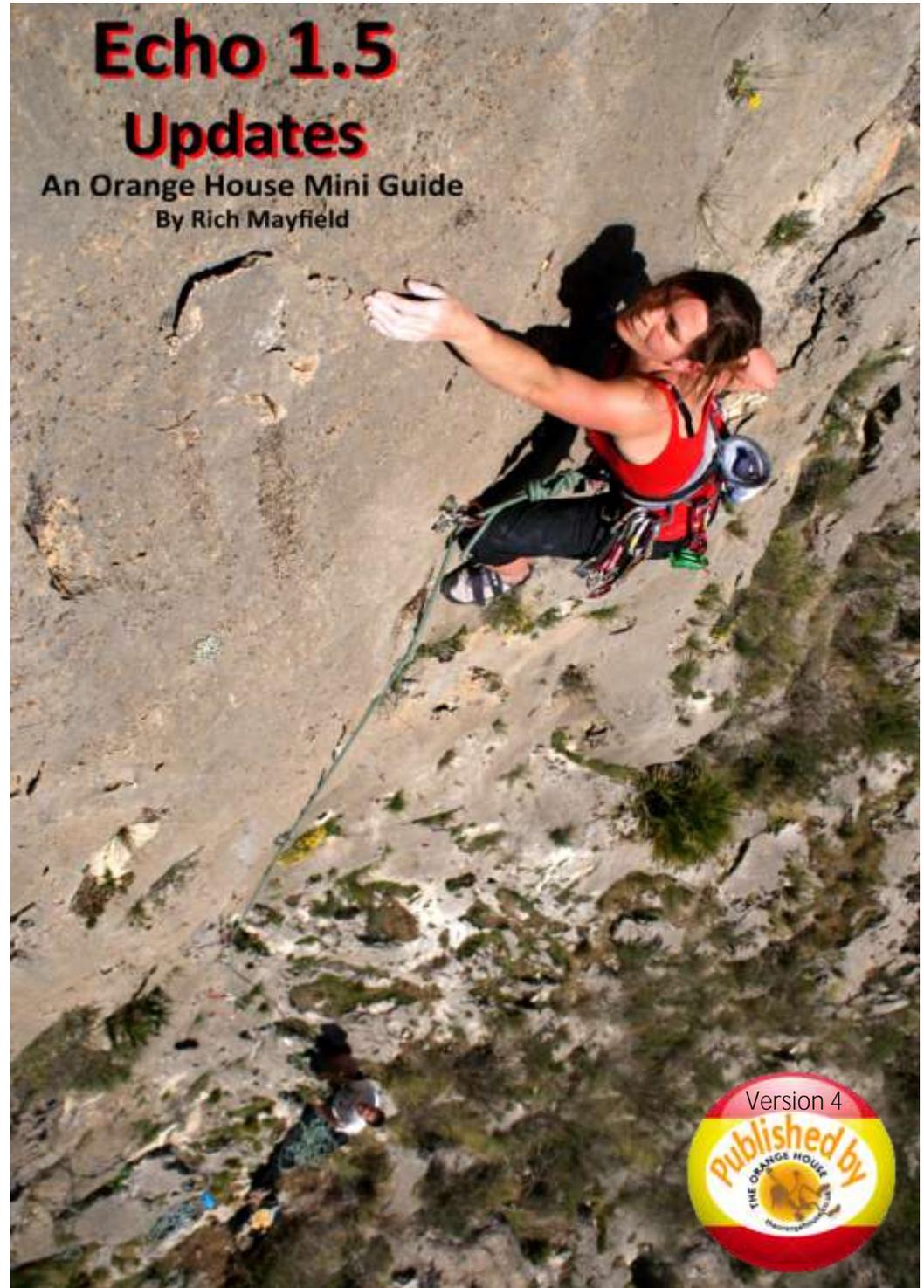
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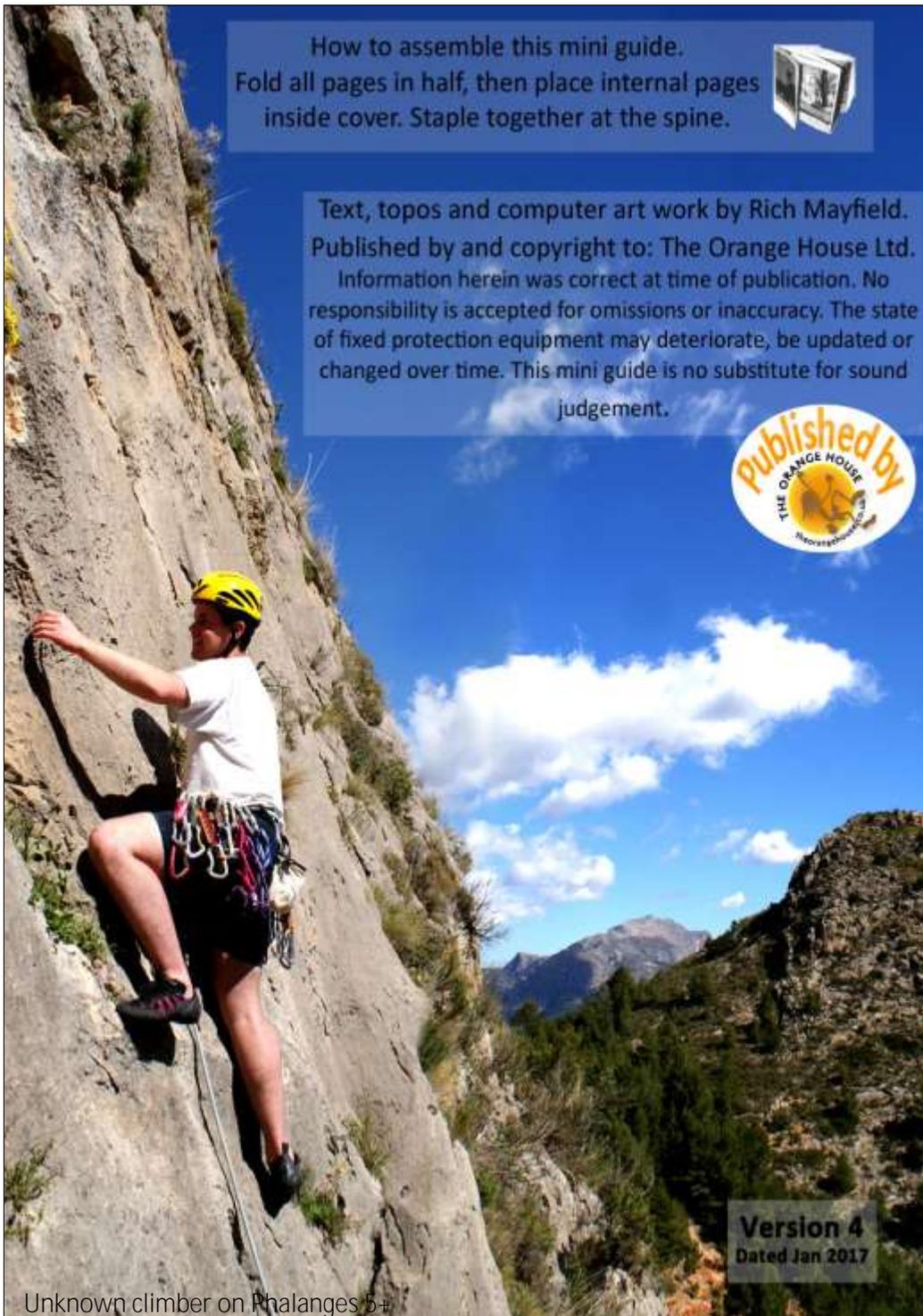


# Echo 1.5 Updates

An Orange House Mini Guide  
By Rich Mayfield



Version 4



Unknown climber on Phalanges 5+

## Introduction

Echo 1.5 was bolted by Rich Mayfield, after a day of guiding at Sella on the 3's and 4's which are so polished his clients found following the routes excessively hard and spoiled their enjoyment.

This small crag is hugely popular, often with large groups of locals and visiting climbers. It might be worth having a back up plan should it become too busy. The Bolts are Fixe galvanized expansion bolts with twin bolt chains for lower offs.

All crags are South facing and can be very hot on windless days, Abajo is road side, Alto is a short 2 min scramble up hill as is Pared Ovidado.

Amor donde tu Escalar, nada más que fotos, no dejes nada.

Love where you climb, take but nothing photos, leave nothing.



Climbers on the 3 star classic of Phalanges 5+

## Approach

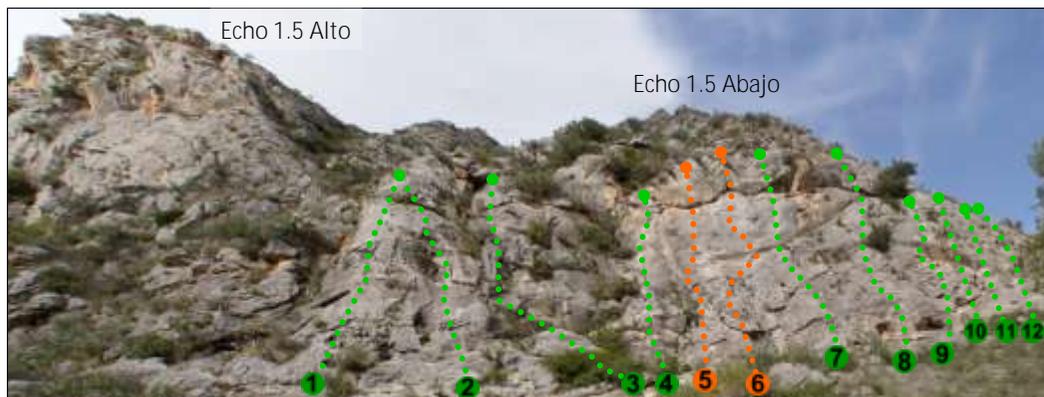
From the House. Head down the CV767 to the Goat Roundabout, turn left, go straight over 4 more roundabouts turning left at the fifth onto the CV70.

Or from the A7. Take the Benidorm junction onto the N332 South, take the first exit onto the CV70.

Then stay on the CV70 first heading to La Nucia then Guadalest for 10km until you reach yet another roundabout sign posted for an urbanization called Polop Paradis. Go straight on here, at the next roundabout turn left, onto a dirt road which soon becomes concrete. Echo Playa is the first crag, then Echo 1 meets the road, a series of hair pin bends with a large green sign with nothing on it is at the last bend. Park here for Echo 1.5, walk up the road for 50m the crag is on the right. For Echo 2 continue driving to a parking area 200 m further up the hill where the concrete road becomes dirt again. Please park considerately, this area can become busy with walker and climbers.

Aspect

The crags face almost directly south getting all the sun in the morning until mid to late afternoon when a shadow is cast by the Ponocho. When the sun leaves Echo 2 the pockets and cracks tend to become very greasy making everything feel much harder than it really is. During the hot Spanish summer this valley can make an idyllic evening crag, when it is too hot to climb in the full sun.



1. Flake drum 4+ 15m  
Climb the wall to the flake where a difficult step gains easier ground to the finish.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

2. Bicton ITC 08 4 15m  
The right hand side of the pillar.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

3. Aero 4 12m  
The easy corner which could do with a little more traffic.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

4. Zac-e-than 5 14m  
To the right of the corner, tricky move near the top to finish.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

5. Made in Exmouth 6a+ 14m  
The hardest route on here with some thin moves.  
FA R Mayfield

6. X.M.A.S. 6a 14m  
Climb the easy slab to a harder wall and small overlap.  
FA R Mayfield

7. Regalo por Ali 5 15m  
The groove to the vertical wall and small overlap.  
FA R Mayfield 6 Helen Taylor

8. Phantom 5+ 14m  
A hard start leads to easier ground finishing up a wide chimney.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

9. Shield 3+ 10m  
Zigzag up the wall on huge holds.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

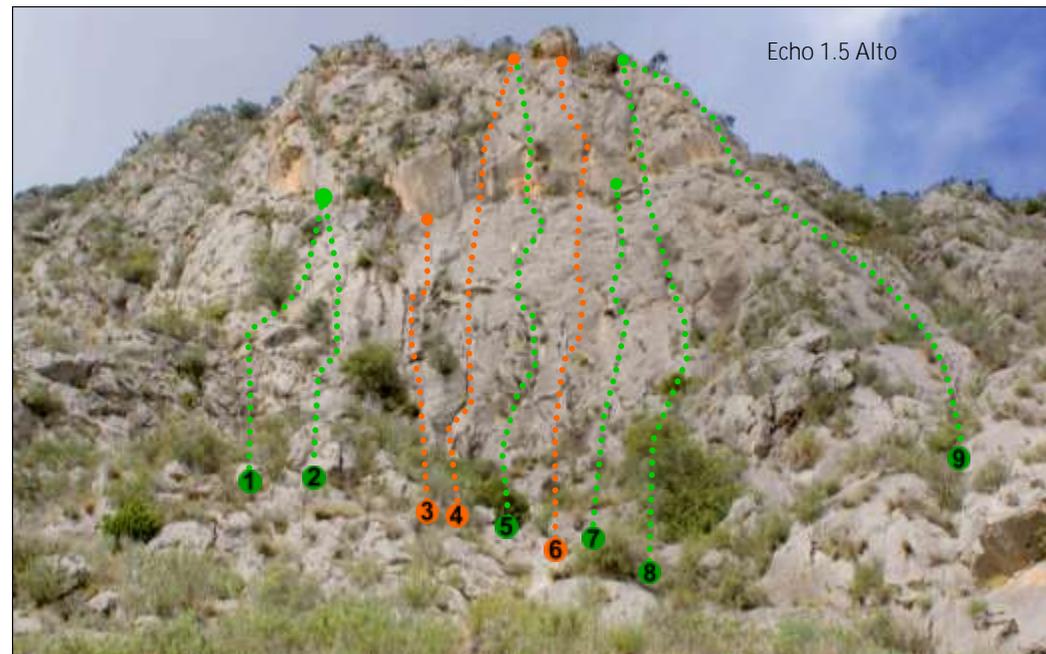
10. Fat boy 3 12m  
Steep at first but really juggy as only limestone can be!  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

11. Live wire 3 12m  
Amazingly juggy rock that only the Costa Blanca could provide.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

12. Pro-wire 3 12m  
A carbon copy of Live wire but worth while none the less.  
FA R Mayfield solo bolt on lead

All routes have double bolt chains which have to be threaded to lower off.

Routes 8 to 12 can be easily accessed via a short scramble on the right of the crag.



1. Romero's Birthday 4 20m  
Tricky move before the ledge, then easier.  
FA R Mayfield

2. Espolon Alderlon 4 20m  
A little gem with nice moves on good rock.  
FA R Mayfield

3. Marian Jones 6a 18m  
Vegetated low down, but worth doing for the top cracks.  
FA R Mayfield

4. Sin chapa 6a+ 30m  
Climb past the tree, hard moves to pass the steep wall near the top, which can be dirty.  
FA R Mayfield & Gaz Parry

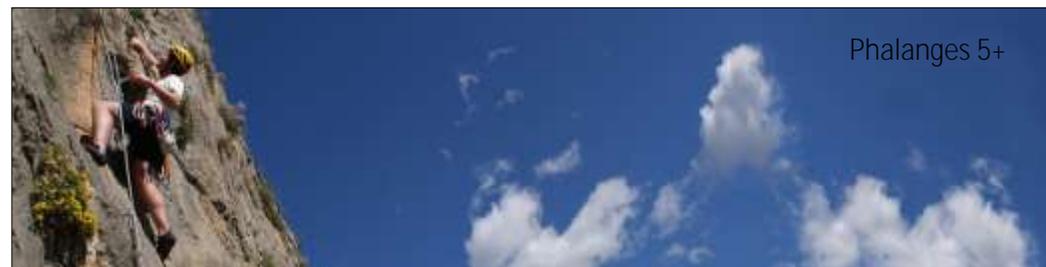
5. Phalanges 5+ 30m  
Fantastic and sustained climbing until the steep bit then it becomes a jug fest!  
FA R Mayfield & Tony Pearsons

6. Central 6b 30m  
Tricky move by the third bolt, then sustained, **don't be put off by the blunt arête after a hard move it eases.** FA R Mayfield & Tony Pearsons

7. Synovial 5 22m  
The wall and pillar to a chain lower off where the rock steepens.  
FA R Mayfield & Tony Pearsons

8. Tonys route 5+ 30m  
Climb the wall via some thin moves to the steep wall and chimney above.  
FA R Mayfield & Tony Pearsons

9. Sesamoid 4+ 32m  
Caution 32m route! A fantastically exposed but very easy line up the arête on the right hand side of the crag.  
FA R Mayfield & Tony Pearsons



### Pared Olvidado

Follow a path that skirts up hill around the right-hand side of Echo 1.5 Abajo, 2 to 5 minutes from the road.

1 Pared Olvidado 4 12m

A really nice and straight forward little slab climb.

FA R Mayfield

2 Espolon Perdida 4+ 10m

A fine and slightly exposed route up the centre of the wall.

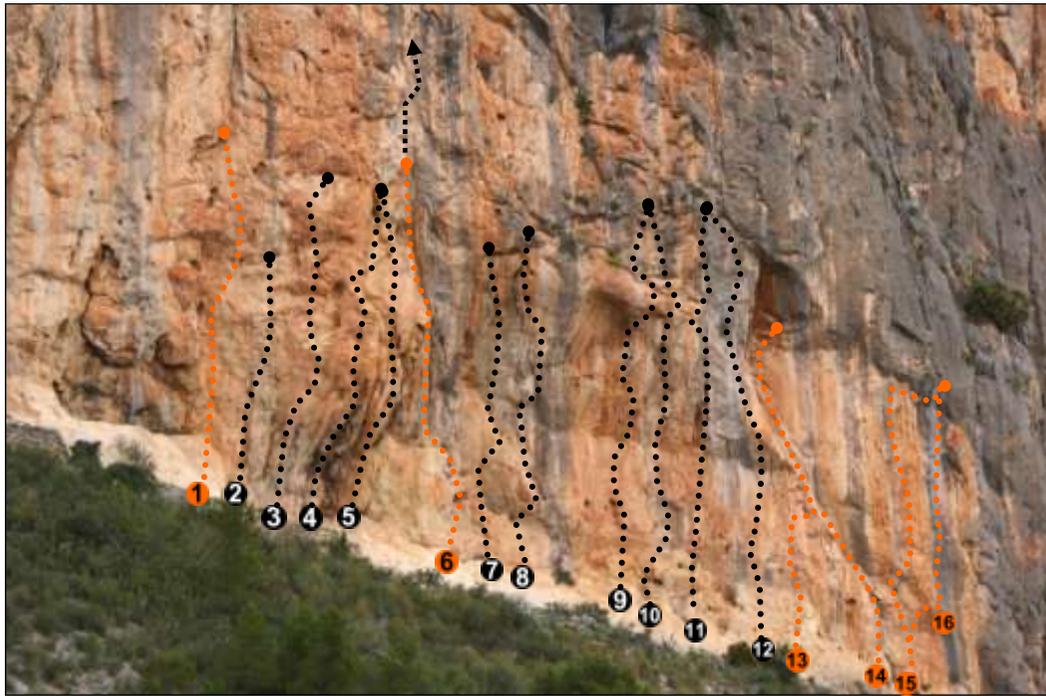
FA R Mayfield

3 Pared de demencia 4 8m

A short climb with a tricky start and finish.

FA R Mayfield





- 12. Batistot 24 7 a 18m  
A direct start to Gloria. Long reach even for the tall.
- 13. Gloria 6a+ 16m  
Is now fully bolted with a lower off under the roof. Tricky moves on large open handed holds, to the easier groove. The groove is also fully bolted at 6a.
- 14 Gloria right 6a+ 18m  
An alternative start
- 15 Dream maker 6b 16m  
Start at the groove and climb the grey streak finishing just below the steep section.
- 16. Dream maker right 6c 16m  
Is now fully bolted and much better for it!

Rich Mayfield on Mad Dogs. Photo: Tony Pearson

- 1. Sin Nombre 6c 18m  
The friable chimney is good fun but is harder than it looks.
- 2. Indigo 8a 10m  
A short and powerful crack fully bolted.
- 3. Millennium 8a 10m  
A candidate for the most created route on the Costa Blanca. Short powerful resin pulling.
- 4. Death pulse E7 6c 15m  
A hard route which is very safe, if you have a number 2 Tricam. Much harder since it lost many holds onear the top where the crux section is.
- 5. Asteroid Storm E4 6a 15m  
Half a metre to the right of DP. Friable rock not really worth doing.
- 6. Andromeda 7a 180m  
This is a very good route which has seen almost no traffic because of the disinformation surrounding it.  
1) Upgraded to 6b  
2) 7a fully bolted  
3) 6a Take some wires

- 4) 6c+ downgraded from 7c, maybe it was a typo! Slightly tainted by the bolted on rock flake and drilled pocket, but still a good pitch. Bolted. 5 & 6) 6a
- 7. Shelter 8a 18m  
**One of the few routes to keep it's grade, short but powerful. A large hold has come off at start of the hard climbing. More bolts than Fixe!**
- 8. Super G 7b+/7c 18m  
A fully bolted steep route, well worth the effort.
- 9. Iratika 7c+ 18m  
Fully bolted, most people who have done it find the long reach low down the crux! Top requires some blind pulls, easier if the holds are ticked.
- 10 Path of excess power 7c 20m  
Only one hard move easier for the tall and strong. Or dead point or dyno for the short and weak.
- 11. Mad dog E5 6a 18m  
A very good traditional line up the crack, which swallows gear. Very safe once you get past the first 5 metres. Chain lower off.

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**Costa Blanca**

One of the best climbing destinations in the world for sport and trad climbing. See cliffs, immaculate inland crags and huge multi-pitch routes on an alpine scale.